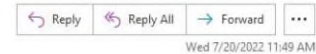
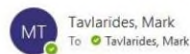


State Department Recognizes Bahrain For Efforts to End Human Trafficking



Good morning,

BGR Group represents the Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain. As you may know, yesterday the State Department [released](#) its annual Trafficking in Persons (TIP) report, which is used globally as a measure of accountability to ensure governments make consistent progress to eliminate forced labor and human trafficking. Bahrain was labeled a Tier 1 country for the 5th year in a row, recognizing Bahrain's steadfast commitment to ending the scourge of human trafficking.

As the State Department recognized, in the last year, and despite complications from the COVID-19 pandemic, Bahrain increased investigations and prosecutions of forced labor, launched a trafficking-specific hotline, and increased identification and care for victims of trafficking. Additionally, the United States commended Bahrain's Trafficking in Persons Prosecutor's Office for regularly fast-tracking trafficking cases to the High Criminal Court.

Bahrain has instituted a series of civic reforms over the past several years, the most recent being Bahrain's first National Action Plan for Human Rights, which enshrines civil and political rights; economic, social, and cultural rights; protection for vulnerable groups; and solidarity rights. Other key reforms to strengthen the criminal justice system to ensure the rights of all are protected include the establishment of oversight bodies like the Prisoners and Detainees Rights Commission (PDRC), Ombudsman (the first and only office of its kind in the region), and the Special Investigation Unit (SIU). The SIU referred 175 police personnel for criminal and disciplinary deliberations in 2020.

In addition to these – and many other – domestic reforms, Bahrain is also committed to increasing cooperation, coordination, and mutual respect across the region. While in the Middle East, President Biden held a meeting with King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa of Bahrain, where Biden [commended](#) Bahrain for its expanded ties with Israel through the Abraham Accords and the Negev process. Bahrain, the host of the U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet, recently signed a historic MOU on security cooperation with Israel and has been deepening defense coordination with Israel and other partners in the region through deeper integration with CENTCOM.

Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to engage further with the Embassy about Bahrain's consistent progress to eradicate human trafficking, its efforts to support victims, or its efforts to spread regional stability and prosperity.

All my best,

Mark

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